

THE VITAL LINK

A HISTORY OF
MAIN ROADS WESTERN AUSTRALIA
1926-1996

LEIGH EDMONDS



University of Western Australia Press

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Appendix 1

MAIN ROADS CHRONOLOGY

1826

First European settlement on the western side of the Australian continent established at King George Sound

1829

Permanent European settlement established at the Swan River Colony

1830

DECEMBER

First overland journey between Perth and Albany, taking 52 days

1834

Narrow clay-based road constructed in St Georges Terrace, Perth

1840

NOVEMBER

Work started on the construction of a crossing of the Swan River at the Causeway

1843

MAY

First Causeway bridge crossing completed

1850

JUNE

Arrival of first convicts to be transported to Western Australia

1863

Work started on construction of the first bridge across the Swan River at Fremantle

1866

Bridge at Fremantle completed

1870

Partial self-government granted to the Western Australian colony

1871

Municipalities and Local Road Boards Act 1871 establishes Local Government in Western Australia

1874

Work begins on the first government-owned railway in Western Australia

1890

Western Australian colony granted full self-government

1894

First motor car arrives in Western Australia

1901

Western Australia joins the Commonwealth of Australia at Federation

1923

Commonwealth Government passes *Main Roads Development Act 1923*

1924

NOVEMBER

Western Australian Government introduces the Main Roads Bill to Parliament

1925

DECEMBER

31 – Assent given to *Main Roads Act 1925*

1926

JUNE

2 – Main Roads Act proclaimed

6 – Main Roads Board appointed

7 – Main Roads Act comes into force

18 – Staff from Roads and Bridges Branch of the Public Works Department transferred to Main Roads Board

JULY

12 – First meeting of the Main Roads Board

AUGUST

16 – Proclamation of *Federal Aid Roads Act 1926*

1927

Main Roads Board undertakes reconstruction of Canning Highway, first major roadworks in the Perth metropolitan area

Main Roads Board establishes District Offices

17 JANUARY TO 21 NOVEMBER

E. Tindale visits Britain, Europe and North America

1928

MARCH

Eastern States
including J. M.

AUGUST

16 – Main R

NOVEMBER

1 – Select C
the Main Ro

17 – R. J. Ar

1929

JULY

Main Roads
Western Aus

SEPTEMBER

W. H. Young

1930

Maintenance

JUNE

Inspectors ap

SEPTEMBER

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and a large r

2 – Last off

DECEMBER

1 – Main R
Commissione

13 – Main R
Offices close

15 – E. Tinda

1931

JULY

1 – New ro
comes into e

SEPTEMBER

Western Aus
sustenance p

1932

MARCH

Road betwee
Stirling High

1928

MARCH

Eastern States engineers appointed to the Main Roads Board staff, including J. W. Young, H. C. Rees and E. W. Godfrey

AUGUST

16 - Main Roads Board staff moves into separated accommodation

NOVEMBER

1 - Select Committee appointed by Legislative Council to enquire into the Main Roads Act and its administration

17 - R. J. Anketell, member of the Main Roads Board, dies suddenly

1929

JULY

Main Roads Board materials testing laboratory at The University of Western Australia opened

SEPTEMBER

W. H. Young appointed to fill vacancy in Main Roads Board

1930

Maintenance patrol system established

JUNE

Inspectors appointed to patrol roads for overweight vehicles

SEPTEMBER

Announcement that Main Roads Board District Offices would be closed and a large number of staff laid off

2 - Last official meeting of the Main Roads Board

DECEMBER

1 - Main Roads Board abolished and E. Tindale appointed Commissioner of Main Roads

13 - Main Roads Head Office returns to Barracks building and all District Offices closed

15 - E. Tindale appointed Director of Public Works and Buildings

1931

JULY

1 - New road funding agreement between Commonwealth and State comes into effect, to run until 31 December 1936

SEPTEMBER

Western Australian Government announces that those receiving sustenance payments will have to undertake public works

1932

MARCH

Road between Perth and Fremantle north of the Swan River named Stirling Highway

1934

JANUARY

Work begins on reconstructing Stirling Highway in several stages over the following few years

FEBRUARY

First meeting of the Conference of State Road Authorities (COSRA) held in Sydney

1935

Concrete crossing built at Fitzroy Crossing, first construction work by Main Roads in the North West

1937

JULY

Work commences on construction of Canning Bridge

1 – Federal Aid Roads Agreement between Commonwealth and States comes into effect, to last until 30 June 1947

1938

APRIL

29 – Canning Bridge opened

MAY

Work commences on construction of North Fremantle Traffic Bridge

1939

SEPTEMBER

COSRA meeting scheduled to take place in Western Australia cancelled due to the war

3 – War declared against Germany

NOVEMBER

Final stage of Stirling Highway completed

DECEMBER

15 – North Fremantle Traffic Bridge opened

1940

FEBRUARY

First demonstration of new white line marking machine on Canning Highway

NOVEMBER

R. Duncan appointed to represent Main Roads in the North West

DECEMBER

Petrol rationing introduced

1941

JANUARY

31 – E. Tindale retires as Commissioner of Main Roads

FEBRUARY

1 – J. W. Ye

JULY

Work starts

South Austr

DECEMBER

8 – War in

1942

JUNE

East-West R

Allied Work

roadworks

DECEMBER

Work starts

Western Aus

1943

APRIL

Work starts

1944

DECEMBER

Western Aus

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1945

Allied Works

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JULY

1 – Main R

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AUGUST

War in the P

OCTOBER

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1946

Western Aus

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Main Roads

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1947

System of ro

MAY

Work comm

FEBRUARY

1 - J. W. Young appointed Commissioner of Main Roads

JULY

Work starts on constructing the East-West Road from Norseman to the South Australian border

DECEMBER

8 - War in the Pacific starts

1942

JUNE

East-West Road completed

Allied Works Council gives priority to aerodrome construction over roadworks

DECEMBER

Work starts on Yanrey aerodrome, completed January 1944

Western Australian Government sets up Post-War Works Committee

1943

APRIL

Work starts on Corunna Downs aerodrome, completed by end of year

1944

DECEMBER

Western Australian Government appoints a committee to prepare submissions for development of the North West

1945

Allied Works Council closed down; Main Roads begins returning to civil roadworks

JULY

1 - Main Roads takes over supervision of all roadworks in the North West and Kimberley districts

AUGUST

War in the Pacific ends

OCTOBER

General demobilisation starts and manpower restrictions begin to relax

1946

Western Australian Government decides that Government Railways will run buses in conjunction with its rail system.

Main Roads begins recruiting new engineers, D. Aitken and G. Marsh among the first

1947

System of road maintenance patrols reinstated

MAY

Work commences on construction of new Causeway

JULY

- 1 – *Commonwealth Aid Roads and Works Act 1947* comes into effect

1948

Migrant labour, including displaced persons, begins arriving in Western Australia to help ease labour shortage

Materials testing laboratory at The University of Western Australia revitalised by D. Aitken

1949

Oil exploration commences in the North West, Main Roads providing roads for the operation

OCTOBER

Commonwealth Government passes *States Grants (Encouragement of Meat Production) Act 1949*

1950

FEBRUARY

Petrol rationing ends

JULY

Work commences on road from Wyndham to Nicholson, funded by States Grants (Encouragement of Meat Production) Act

DECEMBER

Commonwealth Aid Roads Act 1950 passed, to take effect from 1 July 1950

1951

Main Roads begins constructing roads in new settlement areas in collaboration with the War Services Land Settlement Board

MAY

Commissioner Young visits the United States to attend course 'Theory and Practice of Highway Improvement and Utilisation in the United States of America'

MAY

J. D. Leach appointed Deputy Commissioner of Main Roads

1952

Materials testing laboratories established in the Districts

JANUARY

29 – J. W. Young appointed Deputy Director of Works, Public Works Department

29 – J. D. Leach re-appointed Deputy Commissioner of Main Roads

MARCH

Anglo-Iranian Oil Company agrees to build oil refinery at Kwinana

SEPTEMBER

19 – Causeway over Swan River completed and officially opened

OCTOBER

Construction of town site for Kwinana begins

DECEMBER

- 5 – Assent
'controlled a

1953

Position of In
David Davie

Main Road

Sealed road
completed

JANUARY

18 – J. W. Yo

18 – J. D. Le

FEBRUARY

7 – New re
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APRIL

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DECEMBER

7 – First tra
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1955

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Plan for the M
and Hepburn

1956

Traffic Engin
Mobile cooki

camps

MAY

Design for N

SEPTEMBER

Interdepartm
paying' railw

DECEMBER

5 - Assent given to *Main Roads Act Amendment Act 1952*, establishing 'controlled access roads'

1953

Position of Investigating Engineer created to develop future planning, David Davies appointed

Main Roads depot established at Welshpool

Sealed road between Perth and Kalgoorlie (Great Eastern Highway) completed

JANUARY

18 - J. W. Young appointed Director of Works, Public Works Department

18 - J. D. Leach appointed Commissioner of Main Roads

FEBRUARY

7 - New reinforced concrete bridge over Greenough River on Moora-Geraldton road opened

APRIL

New concrete and wood bridge over the Murray River at Mandurah opened

DECEMBER

7 - First traffic lights installed in Western Australia at the West Perth subway

1954

Contributory Bitumen Scheme introduced to promote sealed roads in rural areas

Ord River Crossing at Ivanhoe constructed

OCTOBER

Work commences on land reclamation for Narrows Bridge

DECEMBER

Rotary at western approach to Causeway completed

1955

Main Roads Act amended to allow Commissioner of Main Roads to appoint cadet engineers

Plan for the Metropolitan Region, Perth and Fremantle, 1955 by Stephenson and Hepburn released

1956

Traffic Engineering Branch of Main Roads created

Mobile cooking units introduced for use in Main Roads construction camps

MAY

Design for Narrows Bridge approved

SEPTEMBER

Interdepartmental committee established to look into closing 'non-paying' railway lines

1957

MAY

Perth origin and destination study conducted

AUGUST

14 - Work commences on the Narrows Bridge

1958

New Materials Testing Laboratory constructed at The University of Western Australia

SEPTEMBER

Land reclamation associated with construction of Narrows Bridge completed

1959

Construction of roads for Kununurra town site begins

JULY

1 - *Commonwealth Aid Roads Act 1959* comes into effect

NOVEMBER

13 - Narrows Bridge over the Swan River opened

1960

Metropolitan Region Planning Authority established

Work commences on sealing Eyre Highway

JANUARY

First Plant Engineer, B. Nelli, appointed

MAY

Kimberley District created and A. Tognolini appointed District Engineer

1961

Consulting company De Leuw, Cather & Company of Chicago engaged to design the first stage of the Mitchell Freeway

FEBRUARY

Carnarvon evacuated after cyclone and heavy rains, Main Roads heavily involved in the evacuation

OCTOBER

27 - *Western Australian Grants (Beef Cattle Roads) Act 1961* assented to

1962

Sealed road between Coolgardie and Esperance completed

MARCH

Main Roads takes delivery of a Bendix G15 computer, first computer in Western Australia, to help with calculations for freeway design

SEPTEMBER

Widening of road reserves for floral conservation begins

1 - Sealed road between Geraldton and Carnarvon completed and opened

DECEMBER

12 - *Western*

1963

Main Roads shortages

The names 'T

'Divisional E

Metropolitan

MAY

First trip by

Kimberley D

Station to De

1964

J. Punch sets

Interchange

JANUARY

J. D. Leach re

20 - J. Punch

JULY

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SEPTEMBER

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30 - *Common*

Parliament

1965

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JANUARY

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April

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Mitchell Free

29 - D. Aitke

SEPTEMBER

First issue of

NOVEMBER

First Account

1966

Nickel discov

West begin n

Western Aust

between Carn

DECEMBER

12 – *Western Australian Grants (Beef Cattle Roads) Act 1962* assented to

1963

Main Roads recruits about twenty engineers from Britain due to local shortages

The names 'District' and 'District Engineer' changed to 'Division' and 'Divisional Engineer'

Metropolitan Region Planning Scheme adopted

MAY

First trip by a refrigerated truck made through the Leopold Ranges in the Kimberley Division carrying beef carcasses from the abattoir on Glenroy Station to Derby

1964

J. Punch sets up advisory committee on landscaping the Narrows Interchange

JANUARY

J. D. Leach retires as Commissioner of Main Roads

20 – J. Punch appointed Commissioner of Main Roads

JULY

1 – *Commonwealth Aid Roads Act 1964* comes into effect

SEPTEMBER

Railway Crossing Protection Committee established

Work commences on consolidation work for the Narrows Interchange

30 – *Commonwealth Bureau of Roads Act 1964* passed by Commonwealth Parliament

1965

Roadside Verge Conservation Committee formed

JANUARY

Commissioner J. Punch dies suddenly

April

Clearing work starts in preparation for construction of first stage of Mitchell Freeway

29 – D. Aitken appointed Commissioner of Main Roads

SEPTEMBER

First issue of *Commissioner's Newsletter* published

NOVEMBER

First Accountant, W. Allan, appointed

1966

Nickel discoveries at Kambalda and start of iron ore mining in the North West begin new phase in Western Australian mineral development

Western Australian Government announces nine-year plan to seal road between Carnarvon and Port Hedland

Heavy Haulage Section established in Main Roads

First Public Relations Officer, R. Harris, appointed

APRIL

1 – *Road Maintenance (Contribution) Act 1965* comes into effect

NOVEMBER

18 – Premier Brand unveils plaque to begin work on Mitchell Freeway

1967

APRIL

Most staff move into new premises in Superannuation Building in St Georges Terrace

AUGUST

Main Roads takes delivery of IBM 1130 computer

1968

Computerised Plant Management System established

APRIL

First Horticultural Officer, J. Walden, appointed

JUNE

12 – New bridges crossing the Fitzroy River at Willare opened

19 – *State Grants (Beef Cattle Roads) Act 1968* assented to

JULY

18 – Tenders received for construction of Main Roads building in East Perth

1969

Introduction of *Commonwealth Aid Roads Act 1969*, which significantly changes road funding arrangements with great effect on Western Australian roads

Top structure reorganisation of Main Roads creates two positions of Assistant Commissioner; R. Mofflin and A. Tognolini appointed

Twenty-seven professional staff recruited in Britain to overcome local staff shortages

JULY

First salaries paid under computerised system

AUGUST

Second carriageway on High Street between Stock Road and Bateman Road, Melville, completed

SEPTEMBER

16 – 'Old Coast Road' between Mandurah and Bunbury opened

OCTOBER

17 – Western Australia's section of Eyre Highway opened

NOVEMBER

First magnetic loop detectors for traffic control installed

1970

Highway between Fremantle and Welshpool renamed Leach Highway

Sealed road between Perth and Meekatharra completed

MARCH

First Training

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

Main Roads

NOVEMBER

27 – New M

1971

Main Roads

reserves and

Inauguration

JANUARY

Divisional an

JULY

Standard yell

1 – Pilbara

NOVEMBER

17 – First sta

opened

1972

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Main Roads b

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OCTOBER

4 – Second

opened

1973

Main Roads b

engineers fro

First nuclear

MARCH

First Landscap

NOVEMBER

30 – Narrows

1974

FEBRUARY

Work comme

MARCH

8 – Intercha

MAY

17 – Stirling

JUNE

30 – Beef Cat

MARCH

First Training and Safety Officer, J. Hay, appointed

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

Main Roads moves into new office in East Perth

NOVEMBER

27 - New Main Roads office opened

1971

Main Roads Act amended to give Commissioner control over main road reserves and advertising signs

Inauguration of Commissioner's Safety Awards

JANUARY

Divisional and Head Offices linked by Telex lines

JULY

Standard yellow litter bin introduced

1 - Pilbara Division established

NOVEMBER

17 - First stage of Hamilton Interchange section of Mitchell Freeway opened

1972

Commonwealth establishes National Highway Study Team to survey Australia's major roads

Main Roads begins half-million-dollar program to upgrade living conditions in camps

OCTOBER

4 - Second stage of Hamilton Interchange section of Mitchell Freeway opened

1973

Main Roads holds International Training Course in Road Engineering for engineers from Africa and Asia

First nuclear density meter delivered

MARCH

First Landscape Architect, M. Heath, appointed

NOVEMBER

30 - Narrows Interchange opened

1974

FEBRUARY

Work commences on Stage 2 of the Mitchell Freeway

MARCH

8 - Interchange at the eastern end of the Causeway opened

MAY

17 - Stirling Bridge over the Swan River at Fremantle opened

JUNE

30 - Beef Cattle Roads Act expires

JULY

First Data Processing Manager, I. MacNicol, appointed
Commonwealth introduces the *National Roads Act 1974*, the *Roads Grants Act 1974* and the *Transport (Planning and Research) Act 1974*

1 – Metric conversion of road signs begins

DECEMBER

6 – North West Coastal Highway opened

1975

APRIL

4 – Opening ceremony at Eneabba to commemorate completion of a new sealed road between Muchea and Geraldton

DECEMBER

Main Roads replaces its IBM computer with a CDC Cyber 172

1976

MARCH

2 – First PELICAN (Pedestrian Light Controlled) mid-block traffic crossing light installed in Wellington Street outside Metropolitan Markets

8 – Mitchell Freeway Stage 2 opened

APRIL

30 – Naming of Brand Highway by Premier Charles Court

JULY

1 – Main Roads Act amended to introduce new classification system for roads

SEPTEMBER

29 – South Australia completes sealing of Eyre Highway

DECEMBER

13 – South Perth Interchange on Kwinana Freeway, including Judd Street Bridge, opened

1977

Commonwealth's *State Grants (Roads) Act 1977* combines previous Commonwealth roads legislation

MAY

5 – Pilbara Division Office opened

JULY

1 – Agreement reached on new scheme to provide grants to Local Government bodies

DECEMBER

J. J. G. Punch Materials Testing Laboratory at Welshpool opened

1978

Twenty-five Year Service Awards inaugurated

MARCH

10 – Shelley Bridge on Leach Highway over Canning River opened

JUNE

2 – Mitchell

JULY

23 – Great N
opened

DECEMBER

12 – Great N
opened

1979

JANUARY

13 – Bussell I

FEBRUARY

Commission
of Asia and A

JUNE

30 – Road M

JULY

1 – Chargin
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19 – Cannin

1980

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18 – First au
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16 – First sta
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OCTOBER

7 – Introdu
into city

DECEMBER

5 – Traffic I
22 – Roe Hig
and Beechbo

Highway op

1981

Canadian 'B'
Australia

Commonwea
national rout

Commission

JUNE

2 – Mitchell Freeway Stage 3 opened

JULY

23 – Great Northern Highway between Wyndham and Halls Creek opened

DECEMBER

12 – Great Northern Highway between Meekatharra and Newman opened

1979

JANUARY

13 – Bussell Highway between Margaret River and Augusta opened

FEBRUARY

Commissioner Aitken elected President of Road Engineering Association of Asia and Australasia for a two-year term

JUNE

30 – Road Maintenance (Contribution) Act of 1965 repealed

JULY

1 – Charging started on fuel franchise licence fee in relation to all motor spirit sold in Western Australia

19 – Canning Interchange on Kwinana Freeway opened

1980

Commonwealth's State Grant (Roads) Act renewed

MARCH

18 – First audible traffic signals for visually impaired pedestrians installed at St Georges Terrace and Sherwood Court

MAY

Efficiency Review Committee appointed to report on objectives and function of Main Roads

JUNE

16 – First stage of Beechboro–Gosnells Highway (Tonkin Highway), between Welshpool Road and Hardy Road, opened

OCTOBER

7 – Introduction of extra lane on Narrows Bridge to carry peak traffic into city

DECEMBER

5 – Traffic lights installed at western rotary of Causeway

22 – Roe Highway between Tonkin Highway and Forrestfield opened and Beechboro–Gosnells Highway from Albany Highway to Roe Highway opened

1981

Canadian 'B' Double combination vehicle introduced to Western Australia

Commonwealth's State Grants (Roads) Act amended so that works on national routes have to be contracted out

Commissioner's Productivity Improvement Awards inaugurated

MARCH

Information System Plan developed

APRIL

Commissioner Aitken elected Chancellor of The University of Western Australia

Sealing of Great Northern Highway between Port Hedland and Broome completed

AUGUST

8 - Paraburdoo - Tom Price road opened

NOVEMBER

12 - Last deck unit put in place on Mt Henry Bridge

13 - Road between Bremer Bay and South Coast Highway opened

20 - Leonora-Leinster road opened

1982

Main Roads holds road engineering course for Asian engineers

Main Roads initiates development of a Corporate Plan

Road train assembly area constructed at Upper Swan

MAY

9 - Kwinana Freeway southern extension, including Mt Henry Bridge, opened

JULY

1 - Change to Main Roads financial organisation with the sole account to be operated called Main Roads Trust Fund

AUGUST

17 - Fuel surcharge comes into effect to finance the Australian Bicentennial Road Development (ABRD) Trust Fund

NOVEMBER

Computer link established between Pilbara Division and Head Office; all Divisions linked by 1985

15 - Two bridges over Blackwood river, Evans Bridge and Maidment Bridge, opened

DECEMBER

First Employee Counsellor, G. Hall, appointed

1983

SCATS computer-coordinated traffic control system inaugurated in Perth

JULY

1 - Computerised financial ledger adopted

SEPTEMBER

2 - First stage of Roe Highway opened

DECEMBER

9 - Galena Bridge, over Murchison River on the North West Coastal Highway, opened

1984

Review of top level management undertaken

Staff ceilings imposed on Main Roads

FEBRUARY

First female e

JULY

11 - Beechbo
section, open

12 - Northam
opened

SEPTEMBER

21 - Mitchell

OCTOBER

17 - Mandur

NOVEMBER

23 - Roe Hig

1985

Construction

Environmenta

Development

MARCH

15 - Hamelin

22 - Harding

Roebourne op

APRIL

Computerised

MAY

First Rehabili

1 - Beechbo

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JULY

1 - Australia

Roads Grants

NOVEMBER

26 - Southern

DECEMBER

19 - Improve

1986

Sixtieth Anni

the occasion

Interchange b

JANUARY

Word process

Cyclone Hect

MAY

27 - Final se

AUGUST

6 - Mitchell

FEBRUARY

First female engineer, J. Clyde, appointed

JULY

11 – Beechboro–Gosnells Highway, Guildford Road to Morley Drive section, opened

12 – Northam–Meenaar deviation on Perth–Adelaide National Highway opened

SEPTEMBER

21 – Mitchell Freeway Stage 4 opened

OCTOBER

17 – Mandurah Bypass Stage 1 opened

NOVEMBER

23 – Roe Highway extension to the Great Eastern Highway opened

1985

Construction of pedestrian refuge islands in busy roads begins

Environmental Officer appointed to Main Roads

Development of ROMIS begins

MARCH

15 – Hamelin Pool – Denham road sealed

22 – Harding River Bridge on North West Coastal Highway at Roebourne opened

APRIL

Computerised accounts payable system installed

MAY

First Rehabilitation Counsellor, G. Lazzam, appointed

1 – Beechboro–Gosnells Highway renamed Tonkin Highway, Forrestfield to Redcliffe section opened

JULY

1 – *Australian Land Transport (Financial Assistance) Act 1985* replaces Roads Grants Act

NOVEMBER

26 – Southern extension of Stirling Highway opened

DECEMBER

19 – Improved crossing of the Fitzroy River at Willare opened

1986

Sixtieth Anniversary Year; special dinner and other events held to mark the occasion

Interchange between Tonkin and Great Eastern Highways completed

JANUARY

Word processing introduced

Cyclone Hector destroys much of the crossing at Willare

MAY

27 – Final segment of Mandurah Estuary Bridge launched

AUGUST

6 – Mitchell Freeway Stages 5 and 6 opened

SEPTEMBER

7 – Final section of Great Northern Highway between Fitzroy Crossing and Halls Creek sealed

OCTOBER

18 – Mandurah Bypass Stage 2 and Mandurah Estuary Bridge opened

NOVEMBER

21 – Great Northern Highway between Fitzroy Crossing and Halls Creek opened

1987

Fax machines installed in Divisional Offices

JUNE

12 – Munjina Gorge section of Great Northern Highway opened

OCTOBER

23 – D. Aitken retires as Commissioner of Main Roads

DECEMBER

8 – A. Tognolini appointed Commissioner of Main Roads for a three-year term

1988

First Main Roads Corporate Plan completed

Commonwealth introduces the Australian Centennial Road Development Program to pick up from the ABRD

Commonwealth introduces Quality Assurance concept to road funding

JANUARY

Assistant Commissioner R. Mofflin retires

APRIL

16 – Redcliffe Bridge over Swan River and linking section of the Tonkin Highway opened

MAY

Satellite communications dishes installed at some remote construction camps

14 – Great Eastern Highway Bypass opened

JULY

12 – Mitchell Freeway Stage 7 opened

OCTOBER

Main Roads executive organisation restructured, leading to the formation of the Corporate Management Group

DECEMBER

3 – Pannawonica Road opened

14 – Roe Highway extension, Great Eastern Highway to Great Northern Highway, opened

16 – Australind Bypass opened

17 – Denham – Monkey Mia road opened

1989

JANUARY

1 – *Australian Centennial Road Development Act 1988* comes into effect

28 – Newmarket Road opened, second section

NOVEMBER

Main Roads seal 100km of roads

20 – Bus lane on Great Northern Highway

Narrows Interchange opened

DECEMBER

16 – Final section of Great Northern Highway opened

1990

AUGUST

First Quality Assurance concept introduced

DECEMBER

7 – A. Tognolini appointed Commissioner of Main Roads

1991

Commonwealth introduces 'Black Spots' program

JANUARY

8 – Australian Centennial Road Development Program introduced

APRIL

5 – K. Mitchell appointed Commissioner of Main Roads

SEPTEMBER

Work starts on Mitchell Freeway Stage 7

DECEMBER

Main Roads seal 100km of roads

12 – Extension of Mitchell Freeway Stage 7

1992

MARCH

Main Roads seal 100km of roads

11 – First stage of Mitchell Freeway Stage 7

APRIL

Main Roads seal 100km of roads

JUNE

Mitchell Freeway Stage 7

Railway completed

1993

Solar-powered lighting on Mitchell Freeway

Mitchell Freeway Stage 7

MAY

25 – Main Roads seal 100km of roads

JULY

Quality Assurance concept introduced

28 – Newman to Mt Robinson section of the national highway system opened, second last section to be completed

NOVEMBER

Main Roads Environmental Management Manual completed

20 – Bus lane on Kwinana Freeway between Canning Interchange and Narrows Interchange opened

DECEMBER

16 – Final section of the Newman to Hedland section of Great Northern Highway opened, final section of the highway to be completed

1990

AUGUST

First Quality Assurance contracts awarded

DECEMBER

7 – A. Tognolini retires as Commissioner of Main Roads

1991

Commonwealth Government funds three-year program to improve road 'Black Spots'

JANUARY

8 – Australian Centennial Road Development Act amended to become the Australian Land Transport Development Act

APRIL

5 – K. Michael appointed Commissioner of Main Roads

SEPTEMBER

Work starts on construction of Reid Highway

DECEMBER

Main Roads begins eight-month project to repair Fremantle Traffic Bridge

12 – Extension of Kwinana Freeway to Forrest Road opened

1992

MARCH

Main Roads senior management structure revised

11 – First stage of Reid Highway opened

APRIL

Main Roads official title change to 'Main Roads Western Australia'

JUNE

Mitchell Freeway widening to accommodate the Northern Suburbs Railway completed

1993

Solar-powered roadside emergency telephones introduced to sections of Mitchell Freeway and Tonkin Highway

MAY

25 – Main Roads Head Office named Don Aitken Centre

JULY

Quality Assurance introduced to all Main Roads programs of work

SEPTEMBER

Survey and Mapping Section receives first quality certification in Main Roads

Total Quality Management strategy adopted

18 – Bridge over Dawesville Cut opened

NOVEMBER

Western Australian Government announces arrangements to extend competitive tendering to government agencies

1994

MARCH

'Fix Australia – Fix the Roads' campaign launched

JUNE

Western Australian Government launches Customer Service Charter

Widening of Albany Highway between Leach Highway and Nicholson Road completed

Capel Bypass completed

JULY

Roe Highway extension from Tonkin Highway to Welshpool Road opened

SEPTEMBER

Main Roads Metropolitan Customer Service Council established

11 – Extension of Kwinana Freeway to Thomas Road opened

OCTOBER

Widening of Eyre Highway from Cocklebiddy to the South Australian border completed

NOVEMBER

17 – Extension of Reid Highway to Wanneroo Road opened

1995

FEBRUARY

1 – Western Australian Government announces 4c per litre fuel levy to improve road funding

25 – Cyclone Bobby closes Eyre Highway

MARCH

Workforce Plan 1995–97 developed

APRIL

20 – Premier Richard Court announces \$1 billion additional funding program

MAY

Public Affairs Unit established

JULY

1 – 'Divisions' retitled 'Regions' and many given new names

OCTOBER

New road classifications introduced

Commercialisation introduced

DECEMBER

Best Roads booklet launched

1996

APRIL

First term co

MAY

13 – Contra

JUNE

1 – Executi

Works Mana

27 – Main R

Advisory Bo

Commission

JULY

1 – Operati

Kalgoorlie an

1996

APRIL

First term contracts awarded to maintain roads

MAY

13 - Contract signed to start work on City Northern Bypass

JUNE

1 - Executive Directors of Road and Traffic Programs and Contracts and Works Management appointed

27 - Main Roads Act amendments assented to, establishing Main Roads Advisory Board and allowing flexibility in appointing future Commissioners

JULY

1 - Operations Centres established at Perth, Port Hedland, Northam, Kalgoorlie and Narrogin

Appendix II

MINISTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR MAIN ROADS

MINISTER FOR PUBLIC WORKS

A. McCallum	Australian Labor Party	1926-1930
J. Lindsay	Country Party	1930-1933
A. McCallum	Australian Labor Party	1933-1936

MINISTER FOR WORKS

H. Millington	Australian Labor Party	1936-1943
A. R. G. Hawke	Australian Labor Party	1943-1947
V. Doney	Country Party	1947-1950
D. Brand	Liberal Party	1950-1953
J. T. Tonkin	Australian Labor Party	1953-1959
G. P. Wild	Liberal Party	1959-1965
R. Hutchinson	Liberal Party	1965-1971
C. J. Jamieson	Australian Labor Party	1971-1974

MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT

R. J. O'Connor	Liberal Party	1974-1977
D. J. Wordsworth	Liberal Party	1977-1978
E. C. Rushton	Liberal Party	1978-1983
J. F. Grill	Australian Labor Party	1983-1986
G. J. Troy	Australian Labor Party	1986-1988
R. J. Pearce	Australian Labor Party	1988-1990
P. A. Beggs	Australian Labor Party	1990-1993
E. J. Charlton	National Party	1993-

Appendix

MEMBERS COMMISS

MAIN ROADS E

E. Tindale, Ch
R. J. Anketell,
G. Dibdin, Ad
W. H. Young,

COMMISSIONER

E. Tindale 19
J. W. Young 1
J. D. Leach 19
J. J. G. Punch
D. H. Aitken
A. H. Tognoli
K. C. Michael

Appendix III

MEMBERS OF MAIN ROADS BOARD AND COMMISSIONERS OF MAIN ROADS

MAIN ROADS BOARD MEMBERS, 1926-1930

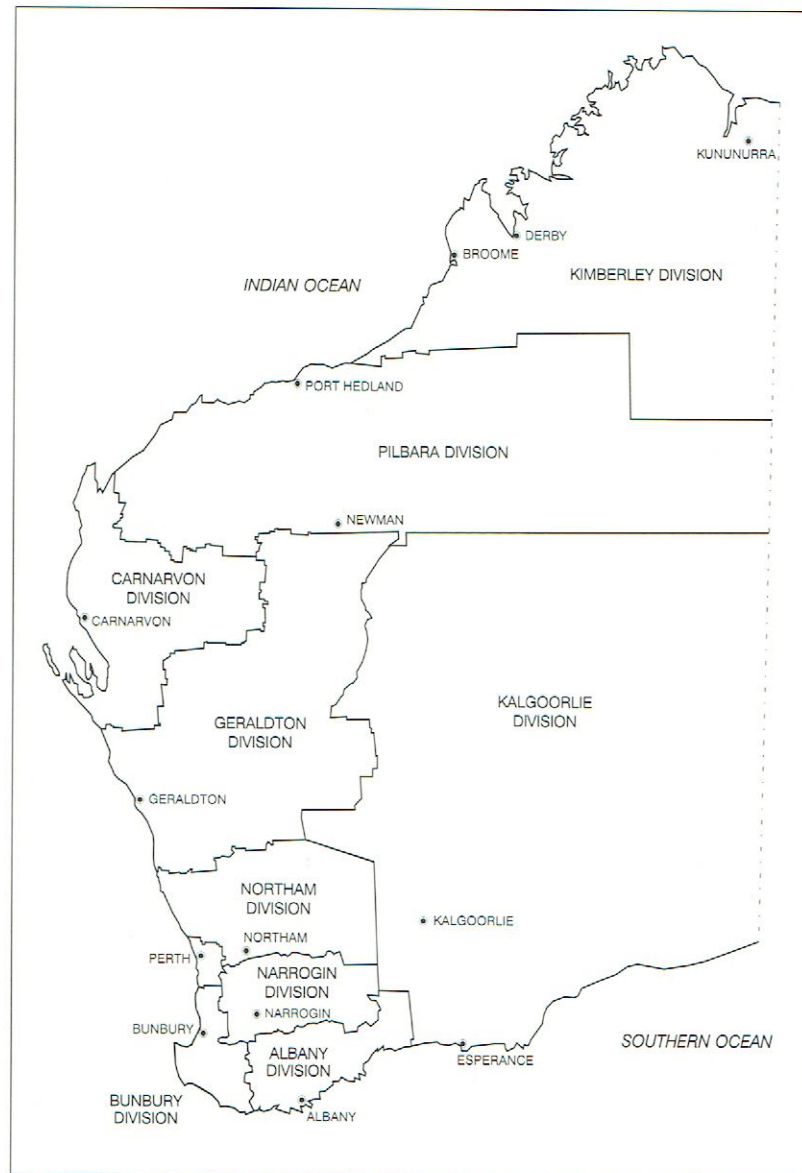
E. Tindale, Chairman 1926-1930
R. J. Anketell, Engineer 1926-1928
G. Dibdin, Administration 1926-1930
W. H. Young, Engineer 1929-1930

COMMISSIONERS OF MAIN ROADS, 1930-

E. Tindale 1930-1941
J. W. Young 1941-1953
J. D. Leach 1953-1964
J. J. G. Punch 1964-1965
D. H. Aitken 1965-1987
A. H. Tognolini 1987-1990
K. C. Michael 1991-

Appendix IV

RURAL REGIONS OF MAIN ROADS WESTERN AUSTRALIA c. 1950–1996



Appendix

DISTRICT 1927–1996

This list was

ALBANY DIVISION
E. J. Bateman
J. C. King 194
D. H. Aitken
J. J. G. Punch
R. J. Mofflin 1
J. D. Butorac
M. N. Lendich
R. E. Shaw 19

BUNBURY DIVISION
T. H. Maguire
E. B. P. Grace
R. A. Mesnil
W. F. Edgar 1

CARNARVON DIVISION
R. G. Duncan
T. A. Pedersen
R. E. Shaw 19
M. N. Lendich
J. Vosnacos 19

GERALDTON DIVISION
A. Fotheringham
G. W. Lavender
J. D. Leach 19
T. H. Maguire
J. J. G. Punch
A. N. Watson
A. H. Tognolini
M. C. P. Clifton
R. E. Shaw 19

Appendix V

DISTRICT / DIVISIONAL ENGINEERS

1927-1996

This list was prepared by Don Gimm

ALBANY DIVISION

E. J. Bateman 1928-1946
J. C. King 1947-1948
D. H. Aitken 1949-1950
J. J. G. Punch 1951-1954
R. J. Mofflin 1955-1961
J. D. Butorac 1962-1966
M. N. Lendich 1967-1969
R. E. Shaw 1970-1971

M. D. Wallwork 1972-1975
R. E. Moore 1976-1977
D. Kilvington 1978-1979
G. R. Watson 1980-1984
G. F. Rathbone 1985
G. Logue 1986-1987
G. J. Norwell 1988-1989
A. L. Phillips 1990-1991
J. F. Marmion 1992-

BUNBURY DIVISION

T. H. Maguire 1928-1935
E. B. P. Grace 1936-1952
R. A. Mesnil 1953-1960
W. F. Edgar 1961-1967

L. Cartwright 1968-1981
P. A. Lander 1982-1985
M. D. Fitzpatrick 1986-1988
D. H. Lee 1989-

CARNARVON DIVISION

R. G. Duncan 1941-1960
T. A. Pedersen 1961-1964
R. E. Shaw 1965-1969
M. N. Lendich 1970-1971
J. Vosnacos 1972-1977

B. K. Winchcombe 1978-1981
J. Vosnacos 1982-1983
D. H. Lee 1984-1988
J. F. Marmion 1989-1991
A. L. Phillips 1992-1993
D. B. Harris 1994-

GERALDTON DIVISION

A. Fotheringham 1927
G. W. Laventer 1928
J. D. Leach 1929-1935
T. H. Maguire 1936-1945
J. J. G. Punch 1946-1951
A. N. Watson 1952-1956
A. H. Tognolini 1957-1959
M. C. P. Clifton 1960-1963
R. E. Shaw 1964

T. A. Pedersen 1965-1968
J. Vosnacos 1969-1971
G. J. Moore 1972-1975
K. C. Michael 1976-1978
B. A. Clarke 1979-1981
B. K. Winchcombe 1982-1986
T. L. Terry 1987-1989
J. W. B. Noble 1990-1992
R. P. Seman 1993-1995
G. J. Slee 1996-



KALGOORLIE DIVISION

E. B. P. Grace 1927-1928
 B. E. Spencer 1929
 L. L. H. Pittelkow 1930-1934
 H. A. Smith 1935-1949
 A. W. Watson 1950
 D. G. Eustice 1951-1962
 B. K. Winchcombe 1963-1966
 J. G. Smith 1967-1970

KIMBERLEY DIVISION

A. H. Tognolini 1960-1964
 M. C. P. Clifton 1965
 D. G. Bray 1966-1969
 I. J. Galvans 1970-1972
 R. E. Moore 1973-1975
 G. J. Moore 1976-1977

METROPOLITAN DIVISION

M. P. Cullity 1927
 J. W. Young 1928
 F. W. Gilmour 1929-1934
 J. W. Young 1935-1940
 H. C. Rees 1941-1948
 T. H. Maguire 1949-1951
 H. A. Smith 1952-1963

MOORA DIVISION

G. Dick 1957-1958
 W. B. Kelliher 1959-1964
 L. Cartwright 1965-1967
 W. R. Fleury 1968-1971

NARROGIN DIVISION

G. H. Smeed 1927-1941
 S. W. Rees 1955-1958
 P. D. Gregson 1959-1961
 R. G. Button 1962-1965
 P. H. Jones 1966
 B. K. Winchcombe 1967-1977
 J. Vosnacos 1978-1981

R. E. Moore 1971-1972

J. Foster 1973-1979
 J. I. Gill 1980-1982
 I. J. Galvans 1983
 J. Vosnacos 1984-1985
 G. P. Elderfield 1986-1987
 G. Logue 1988-1990
 G. J. Slee 1991-1995
 B. S. Belstead 1996-

P. A. Lander 1978-1981

R. A. Peters 1982-1984
 G. J. Norwell 1985-1987
 G. P. Elderfield 1988-1989
 R. P. Seman 1990-1992
 J. W. B. Noble 1993-1994
 J. Mahoney 1995-

A. N. Watson 1964-1965
 R. G. Button 1966-1977
 M. N. Lendich 1977-1984
 G. J. Moore 1985-1988
 P. A. Lander 1989
 G. R. Watson 1990-1993
 G. F. Rathbone 1994-

J. Foster 1972

I. J. Galvans 1973-1978
 R. A. Peters 1979-1981
 I. J. Galvans 1982

L. Cartwright 1982-1983

I. J. Galvans 1984-1988
 R. J. Hunt 1989
 J. F. Fischer 1990-1992
 A. L. Phillips 1993
 D. M. Snook 1994-1995
 J. C. Anderson 1996-

NORTHAM DIVISION

H. C. Rees 1927-1928
 J. D. Leach 1929-1934
 T. H. Maguire 1935-1949
 S. W. Rees 1950-1951
 G. Dick 1952-1953
 D. H. Aitken 1954-1955
 A. N. Watson 1956-1957

PILBARA DIVISION

M. N. Lendich 1960-1964
 M. D. Wallwork 1965-1969
 D. Kilvington 1970-1974
 B. A. Clarke 1975-1979

Note: Moora Division was a separate division surrounding high workloads in the early 1980s, disbanded in 1984.

DISTRICT/DIVISIONAL ENGINEERS 463

NORTHAM DIVISION

H. C. Rees 1928-1940
J. D. Leach 1941-1945
T. H. Maguire 1946-1948
S. W. Rees 1949-1951
G. Dick 1952-1955
D. H. Aitken 1956
A. N. Watson 1957-1963

D. G. Eustice 1964
D. P. Hill 1965-1968
I. J. Galvans 1969
D. G. Bray 1970-1985
J. Vosnacos 1986-1988
I. J. Galvans 1989
N. G. Fox 1990-

PILBARA DIVISION

M. N. Lendich 1971-1975
M. D. Wallwork 1976-1979
D. Kilvington 1980-1981
B. A. Clarke 1982-1985

G. F. Rathbone 1986-1989
R. J. Hunt 1990-1992
J. F. Fischer 1993-1995
D. M. Snook 1996-

Note: Moora Division was created in July 1957 from sections of the surrounding Geraldton and Northam Divisions to cope with the very high workload of opening up light farming lands in that area. By the early 1980s, that work had been done and the Moora Division was disbanded in July 1982, its territory going back to the other Divisions.